



## WILLIAM AIRD

Wm. Aird, born March 3, 1821. Married Elizabeth McClean. Died July 4, 1889, in Heber, Utah.

Early in life, he was converted to the gospel, became an Elder in the Church, and did missionary work in his homeland.

In May of the same year, he and his wife emigrated to America, landing in New Orleans. From there they traveled by boat up the Mississippi River to Iowa, where they joined a handcart company of Saints and spent the next five months on the plains, arriving in Salt Lake City in October.

While residing in Salt Lake, three children were born to this pioneer couple—twins, Elizabeth and William (William, who died at the age of 7), and Janet.

They then were called to move to Spanish Fork, helping to establish that community. From there, they moved to Heber, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Another son, John, and a daughter, Grace, were born in Heber.

William was a weaver by trade and also followed farming and stock raising. He owned the first spinning wheel and loom in Wasatch County. His wife helped him spin and weave cloth to make clothes for their children as well as the people of the community.

The children likewise distinguished themselves by being active in Church and community affairs. Elizabeth married Gustaf Ludwig Anderson, a merchant and farmer of Heber. Henry taught school in Heber and then in Provo for many years. John W. became a prominent surgeon and physician, practicing in Heber and Provo. He was known throughout the state and nation for his outstanding contributions in the field of medical research. He married Emily McCauslin.

William Aird passed away July 4, 1889, at the age of 68. His life exemplifies that of the early pioneers in contributing greatly to the establishment and development of the West.

Children: Henry M., Dr. John W., Elizabeth, Janet and Grace.